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Plaintiff,

v.

ROBERT MCCARTHY,

KMAN PARTNERS a.k.a. K.M.A.N.
PARTNERS d.b.a. QUALITY INN &
SUITES; ASHOK PATEL, General
Partner of KMAN PARTNERS
a.k.a. K.M.A.N. PARTNERS;
AMIN-CONCORD, LLC; RICHMOND
HOSPITALITY INVESTMENTS,
INC.; ROSHAN INVESTMENTS,
LLC; And DOES 1 THROUGH 10,
Inclusive

Defendants.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Ge NO 6 1261

DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES IN PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS
[42 U.S.C. 12182(a) ET. SEQ; CIVIL CODE 51, 52, 54, 54.1]

NEGLIGENCE

[CIVIL CODE 1714(a), 2338, 3333; EVIDENCE CODE 669(a)]

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
[F.R.Civ.P. rule 38(b)]

#### INTRODUCTION

Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY herein complain, by filing this
Civil Complaint in accordance with rule 8 of the Federal Rules of
Civil Procedure in the Judicial District of the United States
District Court of the Northern District of California, that
Defendants have in the past, and presently are, engaging in

discriminatory practices against individuals with disabilities,

specifically including minorities with disabilities. Plaintiff

are necessary to compel access compliance because empirical

alleges this civil action and others substantial similar thereto

research on the effectiveness of Title III of the Americans with

Disabilities Act indicates this Title has failed to achieve full

and equal access simply by the executive branch of the Federal

Government funding and promoting voluntary compliance efforts.

disabilities give actual notice of potential access problems to

places of public accommodation without a federal civil rights

action, the public accommodations do not remove the access

Further, empirical research shows when individuals with

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this federal civil rights action:

barriers.

### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

Therefore, Plaintiff makes the following allegations in

1. The federal jurisdiction of this action is based on the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 United States Code 12101-12102, 12181-12183 and 12201, et seq. Venue in the Judicial District of the United States District Court of the Northern District of California is in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because a substantial part of Plaintiff's claims arose within the Judicial District of the United States District Court of the Northern District of California.

#### INTRADISTRICT ASSIGNMENT

2. Pursuant to Local Rule 3-2, this action should be assigned to the San Francisco Division as the property that is the subject of this action is situated in Contra Costa County.

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#### SUPPLEMENTAL JURISDICTION

The Judicial District of the United States District Court of the Northern District of California has supplemental jurisdiction over the state claims as alleged in this Complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a). The reason supplemental jurisdiction is proper in this action is because all the causes of action or claims derived from federal law and those arising under state law, as herein alleged, arose from common nucleus of operative facts. The common nucleus of operative facts, include, but are not limited to, the incidents where Plaintiff was denied full and equal access to Defendants' facilities, goods, and/or services in violation of both federal and state laws when Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY attempted to enter, use, and/or exit Defendants' facilities as described below within this Complaint. Further, due to this denial of full and equal access, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY and other persons with disabilities were injured. Based upon the said allegations, the state actions, as stated herein, are so related to the federal actions that they form part of the same case or controversy and the actions would ordinarily be expected to be tried in one judicial proceeding.

#### NAMED DEFENDANTS AND NAMED PLAINTIFF

4. Defendants are, and, at all times mentioned herein, were, a business or corporation or franchise organized and existing and/or doing business under the laws of the State of California.

Defendant KMAN PARTNERS a.k.a. K.M.A.N. PARTNERS d.b.a. QUALITY

INN & SUITES is located at 915 West Cutting Boulevard, Point

Richmond, California, 94804-2450. Plaintiff is informed and

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believes and thereon alleges that Defendants KMAN PARTNERS a.k.a. K.M.A.N. PARTNERS and ASHOK PATEL, General Partner of KMAN PARTNERS a.k.a. K.M.A.N. PARTNERS are the owners, operators, franchisees, and/or lessors of the QUALITY INN & SUITES that is the subject of this Civil Complaint. Defendants KMAN PARTNERS a.k.a. K.M.A.N. PARTNERS and ASHOK PATEL, General Partner of KMAN PARTNERS a.k.a. K.M.A.N. PARTNERS are located at 4258 Cesar Chavez Street, San Francisco, California, 94131. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendants AMIN-CONCORD. LLC; RICHMOND HOSPITALITY INVESTMENTS, INC.; and ROSHAN INVESTMENTS, LLC, are the owners, operators, and/or lessors of the real property located at 915 West Cutting Boulevard, Point Richmond, California, 94804-2450, Assessor Parcel Number 550-012-006. Defendant AMIN-CONCORD, LLC, is located at 220 North Bayshore Boulevard, San Mateo, California, 94401. Defendant RICHMOND HOSPITALITY INVESTMENTS, INC., is located at 25623 Amberleaf Road, Torrance, California, 90505. Defendant ROSHAN INVESTMENTS, LLC, is located at 610 Geary Street, San Francisco, California, 94102.

- 5. The words Plaintiff and Plaintiffs as used herein specifically include ROBERT MCCARTHY and persons associated with ROBERT MCCARTHY who accompanied him to Defendants' facilities.
- 6. Defendants Does 1 through 10, were at all times relevant herein subsidiaries, employers, employees, agents, of KMAN PARTNERS a.k.a. K.M.A.N. PARTNERS d.b.a. QUALITY INN & SUITES; ASHOK PATEL, General Partner of KMAN PARTNERS a.k.a. K.M.A.N. PARTNERS; AMIN-CONCORD, LLC; RICHMOND HOSPITALITY INVESTMENTS,

INC.; and/or ROSHAN INVESTMENTS, LLC. Plaintiff is ignorant of the true names and capacities of Defendants sued herein as Does 1 through 10, inclusive, and therefore sue these Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will pray leave of the court to amend this complaint to allege the true names and capacities of the Does when ascertained.

7. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Defendants and each of them herein were, at all times relevant to the action, the owner, lessor, lessee, franchiser, franchisee, general partner, limited partner, agent, employee, representing partner, or joint venturer of the remaining Defendants and were acting within the course and scope of that relationship.

Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that each of the Defendants herein gave consent to, ratified, and/or authorized the acts alleged herein to each of the remaining Defendants.

### CONCISE SET OF FACTS

- 8. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY has an impairment and due to this impairment he has learned to successfully operate a wheelchair.
- 9. On January 19, 2006, and on January 20, 2006, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY went to Defendants' KMAN PARTNERS a.k.a. K.M.A.N. PARTNERS d.b.a. QUALITY INN & SUITES (hereinafter "QUALITY INN & SUITES") facilities to utilize their goods and/or services. When Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY patronized Defendants' facilities, he was unable to use and/or had difficulty using the public accommodations' disabled parking, exterior path of travel, curb

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ramp, lobby entrance, counter, guestroom entrance, guestroom bathroom, guestroom interior path of travel, guestroom curtain/lamp operable controls, guestroom desk, guestroom amenity, quest laundry, and pool facilities at Defendants' QUALITY INN & SUITES business establishment because they failed to comply with ADA Access Guidelines For Buildings and Facilities (hereafter referred to as "ADAAG") and/or California's Title 24 Building Code Requirements. Defendants failed to remove access barriers within the disabled parking, exterior path of travel, curb ramp, lobby entrance, counter, guestroom entrance, guestroom bathroom, guestroom interior path of travel, guestroom curtain/lamp operable controls, guestroom desk, guestroom amenity, guest laundry, and pool facilities of Defendants' QUALITY INN & SUITES establishment. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY intends to return to Defendants' QUALITY INN & SUITES facilities in the immediate future. 10. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY personally experienced difficulty with said access barriers at Defendants' QUALITY INN & SUITES facilities. For example, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTY lodged at Defendants' hotel with a reservation that had been made during the week of January 15, 2006. The hotel has two (2) entrances to the parking lot facilities of the hotel, one (1) from Cutting Boulevard and one (1) from a side street. Neither of these two (2) entrances has the required disability signage informing patrons they may be fined or their vehicles may be towed if they

one hundred forty-six (146) parking spaces, only two (2) parking spaces are marked with blue paint. Neither of these two (2) marked parking spaces have the required disability signage on an upright pole, "Van Accessible" disability signage, nor signage informing patrons they may be fined or their vehicle may be towed if they unlawfully park in a disabled parking space. There also fails to be the required wheel stops at both of these parking spaces to prevent vehicular encroachment onto the walkway. This is important as the walkway affected is the only walkway leading to the hotel lobby and guestrooms. There fails to be the correct number of disabled parking spaces at Defendants' hotel. There fails to be a designated safe and accessible exterior path of travel leading from either public street to the walkway or entrance of the hotel.

- 11. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY went into the QUALITY INN & SUITES lobby and registered as a guest in the hotel. The lobby entrance door fails to have the required disability signage. Further, the registration counter within the lobby is too high to be accessible, as the counter is forty-two inches (42") high. As a result of the high registration counter, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY had extreme difficulty conducting his transaction and passing items over this counter.
- 12. At the disabled parking space used by Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY a curb ramp encroaches into the access aisle of the designated disabled parking space. As a result, this curb ramp interfered with Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY's use of the access aisle, as Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY had a rental van equipped with

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1 a drop-down ramp at the passenger side sliding door. This van 2 ramp overlapped part of the curb ramp, as a direct result of the 3 curb ramp encroachment into the access aisle. Immediately after 4 checking into the hotel, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY returned to his 5 vehicle to collect his things. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY placed a 6 cardboard box containing clothing, reading material, and three (3) 7 cups of coffee on his lap. As Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY attempted 8 to roll down and off of the vehicle ramp, Plaintiff ROBERT 9 MCCARTHY turned left onto the curb ramp. Plaintiff ROBERT 10 MCCARTHY did not realize that the right front wheel of his 11 wheelchair was dangling over the edge of the curb ramp or that the 12. big right wheel of his wheelchair was going to miss the curb ramp 13 as he turned his wheelchair to the left. Unexpectedly, Plaintiff 14 ROBERT MCCARTHY's wheelchair flipped to the right off of the curb 15 ramp and Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY fell to the ground onto his 16 right side. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY's right elbow and lateral 17 knee joint hit the ground forcefully. At first, Plaintiff ROBERT 18 MCCARTHY moved himself and the contents of the box out of the way 19 of the spilled coffee. Then Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY uprighted 20 his wheelchair. A few minutes after falling, a man walked by 21 Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY and asked Plaintiff if he needed help. 22 Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY replied that he was unable to get 23 himself back into his wheelchair without assistance. The man then 24 identified himself as Mr. Guillaum, the manager of Defendants' 25 OUALITY INN & SUITES. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY is informed and 26 believes and thereon alleges that Mr. Guillaum is French. Also, 27 Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY is informed and believes and thereon

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alleges that the Assistant Manager of Defendant QUALITY INN & SUITES, Sandra, may have seen Plaintiff on the ground. ROBERT MCCARTHY is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Sandra is from Kenya. Later, Assistant Manager Sandra stated to Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY that she was sorry about Plaintiff's fall and injury. Mr. Guillaum and two (2) other men lifted Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY into his wheelchair. Mr. Guillaum escorted Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY to his guestroom and later returned with free replacement coffee for Plaintiff ROBERT Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY's right knee hurt terribly MCCARTHY. throughout the night and the pain disrupted his sleep. The next morning, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was in excruciating pain in his right knee as he was sitting in the bottom of the questroom bathtub and tried to straighten his right leg. This pain persisted for Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY for approximately ten (10) days.

13. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was given Guestroom 114. This guestroom fails to be accessible. At the entrance door to Guestroom 114, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was precluded from accessing the very high night latch, as it is mounted sixty inches (60") high or use the peephole on the door, as it is mounted sixty inches (60") high. As a result, the safety and security features available to other patrons were denied to Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY. This greatly concerned Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY as the registration clerk, by the name of Denise, informed Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY to be very careful, as there are a great deal of transients and "pan handlers" in the area. On the morning of

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1 January 20, 2006, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY had extreme difficulty 2 bathing himself. In the bathtub, there fails to be the required 3 bench or seat. There also fails to be the required hand-held 4 sprayer unit. The wall mounted showerhead was directed toward the 5 rear wall and too high for Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY to reach and 6 re-position. The bathtub faucet control valve is very far from 7 the edge of the bathtub, requiring Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY to 8 lean forward and to the side at a very unsafe angle while seated 9 in his wheelchair to operate. The lavatory sink in Guestroom 114 10 fails to have the required insulation on the hot water and 11 drainage pipes. The hand towels are inaccessible in Guestroom 114 12 as they are located on a very high towel rod next to the lavatory 13 sink. This towel rod is mounted sixty-two inches (62") above the 14 floor. The bath towels are also inaccessible, as they are located 15 on a very high rack on the wall above the commode and are fifty-16 six inches (56") above the floor. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY had 17 extreme difficulties in transferring to the commode from his 18 wheelchair and from the commode back into his wheelchair, as the 19 commode is a great distance from the sidewall. The distance from 20 the sidewall to the commode is nineteen inches (19"). Also, the 21 commode is too low, as it is only sixteen and one-half inches (16 22 1/2") high. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY had difficulty accessing the 23 commode flush valve on the far side of the commode tank. 24 Additionally, in the guestroom bathroom of Guestroom 114, 25 Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was precluded from reaching and using 26 the only clothing rod, as it is mounted fifty-eight inches (58") 27 above the floor and the only shelf, mounted sixty inches (60") 28

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high and directly above the clothing rod. The clothing hook mounted on the interior side of the guestroom bathroom door is also too high to be accessible.

- Within Guestroom 114, a table, chairs and the environmental 14. control (air/heat) unit blocked the interior path of travel, precluding Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY from reaching the controls to open and close the window and curtains. Even if Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY would have been able to access the area in and around the curtain controls, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was still precluded from closing the curtains, as the bottom of the vertical curtain controls are too high to be accessible, as the bottom of the controls are more than sixty inches (60") high. As a result, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was completely precluded from closing the curtains in his guestroom. Having the curtains constantly open in his guestroom made Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY feel extremely uncomfortable, during both awake and sleeping hours, as strangers were able to view into Plaintiff's questroom without Plaintiff being aware.
- 15. Within Guestroom 114, the bathroom door fails to open fully, even to a complete ninety-degree (90°) angle. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was precluded from accessing the left side of his bed to allow for a transfer from his wheelchair to the bed from this side, as the wall is too close to the bed. This wall is only thirty-one inches (31") from the bed. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was not able to use the two (2) wall lamps on each side of his bed, as the wall lamps have small, round switches that require tight grasping and/or twisting of the wrist to operate. The desk

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in Guestroom 114 has insufficient knee clearance, as the clearance is a mere twenty-five and one-half inches (25 ½"). Also, the iron mounted on the wall fails to be accessible, as it is too high mounted at more than sixty-six inches (66") above the floor. 16. Defendants' QUALITY INN & SUITES is a two (2) story hotel and has no elevator access to the second floor of the hotel. quest laundry facilities are located only on the second floor of the hotel. As a result, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was precluded from accessing the guest laundry facilities. There also fails to be any disability signage or written directives informing disabled quests how they could use the quest laundry facilities. The outdoor pool was closed for the winter months, however, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY did see that the metal gate entrance doors are made of vertical metal bars and fail to have the required smooth and uninterrupted surface on the bottom ten inches (10") of the doors that allow the doors to be opened by using a wheelchair footrest without creating a hazard. Also, the pool gate latches were inaccessible, as they are mounted on the exterior side on the top right corner and are more than sixty inches (60") high. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY did not see the existence of an assistive lifting device to assist disabled hotel quests into and out of the pool, nor any disability signage stating that such a device is available for disabled hotel quests.

- 17. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY is presently deterred from returning due to his knowledge of the barriers to access that exist at Defendants' QUALITY INN & SUITES facilities.
- 18. Pursuant to federal and state law, Defendants are required to

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remove barriers to their existing facilities. Further, Defendants had actual knowledge of their barrier removal duties under the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Civil Code before January 26, 1992. Also, Defendants should have known that individuals with disabilities are not required to give notice to a governmental agency before filing suit alleging Defendants failed to remove architectural barriers.

Plaintiff believes and herein alleges Defendants' QUALITY

INN & SUITES facilities have access violations not directly experienced by Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY which preclude or limit access by other persons with disabilities, including but not limited to violations relating to Space Allowance and Reach Ranges, Accessible Route, Protruding Objects, Ground and Floor Surfaces, Parking and Passenger Loading Zones, Curb Ramps, Ramps, Stairs, Elevators, Platform Lifts (Wheelchair Lifts), Windows, Doors, Entrances, Drinking Fountains and Water Coolers, Water Closets, Toilet Stalls, Urinals, Lavatories and Mirrors, Sinks, Storage, Handrails, Grab Bars, and Controls and Operating Mechanisms, Alarms, Detectable Warnings, Signage, and Telephones. Accordingly, Plaintiff alleges Defendants are required to remove all architectural barriers, known or unknown. Also, Plaintiff alleges Defendants are required to utilize the ADA checklist for Readily Achievable Barrier Removal approved by the United States Department of Justice and created by Adaptive Environments. 20. Based on these facts, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY alleges he was discriminated against each time he patronized Defendants'

OUALITY INN & SUITES establishment. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was

extremely upset due to Defendants' conduct. Further, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY experienced pain in his legs, knees, back, arms, elbows shoulders and wrists when he attempted to enter, use, and exit Defendants' facilities.

#### NOTICE

21. Plaintiff is not required to provide notice to the defendants prior to filing a complaint. Botosan v. Paul McNally Realty, 216 F.3d 827, 832 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir 2000).

#### WHAT CLAIMS IS PLAINTIFF ALLEGING AGAINST EACH NAMED DEFENDANT

22. KMAN PARTNERS a.k.a. K.M.A.N. PARTNERS d.b.a. QUALITY INN & SUITES; ASHOK PATEL, General Partner of KMAN PARTNERS a.k.a. K.M.A.N. PARTNERS; AMIN-CONCORD, LLC; RICHMOND HOSPITALITY INVESTMENTS, INC.; ROSHAN INVESTMENTS, LLC; and Does 1 through 10 will be referred to collectively hereinafter as "Defendants." 23. Plaintiff avers that the Defendants are liable for the following claims as alleged below:

### DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES IN PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS- Claims Under The

Americans With Disabilities Act Of 1990

CLAIM I AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS: Denial Of Full And Equal Access
24. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 7 - 20 above and elsewhere in
this complaint, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was denied full and
equal access to Defendants' goods, services, facilities,
privileges, advantages, or accommodations. Plaintiff alleges
Defendants are a public accommodation owned, leased and/or
operated by Defendants. Defendants' existing facilities and/or

services failed to provide full and equal access to Defendants' facility as required by 42 U.S.C. § 12182(a). Thus, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was subjected to discrimination in violation of 42 United States Code 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188 because Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was denied equal access to Defendants' existing facilities.

25. Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY has physical impairments as alleged in ¶ 8 above because his conditions affect one or more of the following body systems: neurological, musculoskeletal, special sense organs, and/or cardiovascular. Further, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY's said physical impairments substantially limits one or more of the following major life activities: walking. In addition, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY cannot perform one or more of the said major life activities in the manner, speed, and duration when compared to the average person. Moreover, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY has a history of or has been classified as having a physical impairment as required by 42 U.S.C. § 12102(2)(A).

# CLAIM II AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS: Failure To Make Alterations In Such A Manner That The Altered Portions Of The Facility Are Readily Accessible And Usable By Individuals With Disabilities

26. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 7 - 20 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was denied full and equal access to Defendants' goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations within a public accommodation owned, leased, and/or operated by Defendants.

Defendants altered their facility in a manner that affects or could affect the usability of the facility or a part of the

facility after January 26, 1992. In performing the alteration, Defendants failed to make the alteration in such a manner that, to the maximum extent feasible, the altered portions of the facility are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, including individuals who use wheelchairs, in violation of 42 U.S.C. §12183(a)(2).

- 27. Additionally, the Defendants undertook an alteration that affects or could affect the usability of or access to an area of the facility containing a primary function after January 26, 1992. Defendants further failed to make the alterations in such a manner that, to the maximum extent feasible, the path of travel to the altered area and the bathrooms, telephones, and drinking fountains serving the altered area, are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities in violation 42 U.S.C. §12183(a)(2).

  28. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §12183(a), this failure to make the alterations in a manner that, to the maximum extent feasible, are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities constitutes discrimination for purposes of 42 U.S.C. §12183(a). Therefore, Defendants discriminated against Plaintiff in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 12182(a).
- 29. Thus, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was subjected to discrimination in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 12183(a), 42 U.S.C. §12182(a) and 42 U.S.C. §12188 because Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was denied equal access to Defendants' existing facilities.

# CLAIM III AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS: Failure To Remove Architectural Barriers

30. Based on the facts plead at  $\P\P$  7 - 20 above and elsewhere in

this complaint, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was denied full and equal access to Defendants' goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations within a public accommodation owned, leased, and/or operated by Defendants. Defendants failed to remove barriers as required by 42 U.S.C. § Plaintiff is informed, believes, and thus alleges that architectural barriers which are structural in nature exist within the following physical elements of Defendants' facilities: Space Allowance and Reach Ranges, Accessible Route, Protruding Objects, Ground and Floor Surfaces, Parking and Passenger Loading Zones, Curb Ramps, Ramps, Stairs, Elevators, Platform Lifts (Wheelchair Lifts), Windows, Doors, Entrances, Drinking Fountains and Water Coolers, Water Closets, Toilet Stalls, Urinals, Lavatories and Mirrors, Sinks, Storage, Handrails, Grab Bars, and Controls and Operating Mechanisms, Alarms, Detectable Warnings, Signage, and Telephones. Title III requires places of public accommodation to remove architectural barriers that are structural in nature to existing facilities. [See, 42 United States Code 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv).] Failure to remove such barriers and disparate treatment against a person who has a known association with a person with a disability are forms of discrimination. 42 United States Code 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv).] Thus, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was subjected to discrimination in violation of 42 United States Code 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188 because he was denied equal access to Defendants' existing facilities. ///

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# CLAIM IV AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS: Failure To Modify Practices, Policies And Procedures

31. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 7 - 20 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Defendants failed and refused to provide a reasonable alternative by modifying its practices, policies and procedures in that they failed to have a scheme, plan, or design to assist Plaintiff and/or others similarly situated in entering and utilizing Defendants' services, as required by 42 U.S.C. § 12188(a). Thus, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was subjected to discrimination in violation of 42 United States Code 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188 because Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was denied equal access to Defendants' existing facilities.

32. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 7 - 20 above, Claims I, II, and III of Plaintiff's First Cause Of Action above, and the facts elsewhere herein this complaint, Plaintiff will suffer irreparable harm unless Defendants are ordered to remove architectural, non-architectural, and communication barriers at Defendants' public accommodation. Plaintiff alleges that Defendants' discriminatory conduct is capable of repetition, and this discriminatory repetition adversely impacts Plaintiff and a substantial segment of the disability community. Plaintiff alleges there is a national public interest in requiring accessibility in places of public accommodation. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law to redress the discriminatory conduct of Defendants. Plaintiff desires to return to Defendants' places of business in the immediate future. Accordingly, the Plaintiff alleges that a structural or mandatory injunction is necessary to enjoin

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compliance with federal civil rights laws enacted for the benefit of individuals with disabilities.

33. WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment and relief as hereinafter set forth.

# SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS - CLAIMS UNDER CALIFORNIA ACCESSIBILITY LAWS

#### CLAIM I: Denial Of Full And Equal Access

Based on the facts plead at  $\P\P$  7 - 20 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was denied full and equal access to Defendants' goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations within a public accommodation owned, leased, and/or operated by Defendants as required by Civil Code Sections 54 and 54.1. Defendants' facility violated California's Title 24 Accessible Building Code by failing to provide access to Defendants' facilities due to violations pertaining to the Space Allowance and Reach Ranges, Accessible Route, Protruding Objects, Ground and Floor Surfaces, Parking and Passenger Loading Zones, Curb Ramps, Ramps, Stairs, Elevators, Platform Lifts (Wheelchair Lifts), Windows, Doors, Entrances, Drinking Fountains and Water Coolers, Water Closets, Toilet Stalls, Urinals, Lavatories and Mirrors, Sinks, Storage, Handrails, Grab Bars, and Controls and Operating Mechanisms, Alarms, Detectable Warnings, Signage, and Telephones. These violations denied Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY full and equal access to Defendants' facility. Thus, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was subjected to discrimination pursuant to Civil Code §§ 51, 52, and 54.1 because Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was denied

full, equal and safe access to Defendants' facility, causing severe emotional distress.

CLAIM II: Failure To Modify Practices, Policies And Procedures

36. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 7 - 20 above and elsewhere
herein this complaint, Defendants failed and refused to provide a
reasonable alternative by modifying its practices, policies, and
procedures in that they failed to have a scheme, plan, or design
to assist Plaintiff and/or others similarly situated in entering
and utilizing Defendants' services as required by Civil Code §

54.1. Thus, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY was subjected to
discrimination in violation of Civil Code § 54.1.

## CLAIM III: Violation Of The Unruh Act

- 37. Based on the facts plead at  $\P\P$  7 20 above and elsewhere herein this complaint and because Defendants violated the Civil Code § 51 by failing to comply with 42 United States Code § 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv) and 42 U.S.C. § 12183(a)(2), Defendants did and continue to discriminate against Plaintiff and persons similarly situated in violation of Civil Code §§ 51, 52, and 54.1.
- 38. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 7 20 above, Claims I, II, and III of Plaintiff's Second Cause Of Action above, and the facts elsewhere herein this complaint, Plaintiff will suffer irreparable harm unless Defendants are ordered to remove architectural, non-architectural, and communication barriers at Defendants' public accommodation. Plaintiff alleges that Defendants' discriminatory conduct is capable of repetition, and this discriminatory

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repetition adversely impacts Plaintiff and a substantial segment of the disability community. Plaintiff alleges there is a state and national public interest in requiring accessibility in places of public accommodation. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law to redress the discriminatory conduct of Defendants. Plaintiff desires to return to Defendants' places of business in the immediate future. Accordingly, the Plaintiff alleges that a structural or mandatory injunction is necessary to enjoin compliance with state civil rights laws enacted for the benefit of individuals with disabilities.

39. Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for damages and relief as hereinafter stated.

# Treble Damages Pursuant To Claims I, II, III Under The California Accessibility Laws

40. Defendants, each of them respectively, at times prior to and including, the month of January, 2006, and continuing to the present time, knew that persons with physical disabilities were denied their rights of equal access to all potions of this public facility. Despite such knowledge, Defendants, and each of them, failed and refused to take steps to comply with the applicable access statutes; and despite knowledge of the resulting problems and denial of civil rights thereby suffered by Plaintiff and other similarly situated persons with disabilities. Defendants, and each of them, have failed and refused to take action to grant full and equal access to persons with physical disabilities in the respects complained of hereinabove. Defendants, and each of them, have carried out a course of conduct of refusing to respond to, or

correct complaints about, denial of disabled access and have refused to comply with their legal obligations to make Defendants' QUALITY INN & SUITES facilities accessible pursuant to the Americans With Disability Act Access Guidelines (ADAAG) and Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations (also known as the California Building Code). Such actions and continuing course of conduct by Defendants, and each of them, evidence despicable conduct in conscious disregard of the rights and/or safety of Plaintiff and of other similarly situated persons, justifying an award of treble damages pursuant to sections 52(a) and 54.3(a) of the California Civil Code.

- 41. Defendants, and each of their actions have also been oppressive to persons with physical disabilities and of other members of the public, and have evidenced actual or implied malicious intent toward those members of the public, such as Plaintiff and other persons with physical disabilities who have been denied the proper access to which they are entitled by law. Further, Defendants, and each of their, refusals on a day-to-day basis to correct these problems evidence despicable conduct in conscious disregard for the rights of Plaintiff and other members of the public with physical disabilities.
- 42. Plaintiff prays for an award of treble damages against Defendants, and each of them, pursuant to California Civil Code sections 52(a) and 54.3(a), in an amount sufficient to make a more profound example of Defendants and encourage owners, lessors, and operators of other public facilities from willful disregard of the rights of persons with disabilities. Plaintiff does not know the

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27 28 financial worth of Defendants, or the amount of damages sufficient to accomplish the public purposes of section 52(a) of the California Civil Code and section 54.3 of the California Civil Code.

43. Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for damages and relief as hereinafter stated.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS- Negligence.

Based on the facts plead at  $\P\P$  7 - 20 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Defendants owed Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY a statutory duty to make their facility accessible and owed Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY a duty to keep him reasonably safe from known dangers and risks of harm. This said duty arises by virtue of legal duties proscribed by various federal and state statutes including, but not limited to, ADA, ADAAG, Civil Code 51, 52, 54, 54.1 and Title 24 of the California Administrative Code and applicable 1982 Uniform Building Code standards as amended. Title III of the ADA mandates removal of architectural barriers and prohibits disability discrimination. As well, Defendants' facility, and other goods, services, and/or facilities provided to the public by Defendants are not accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities as required by Health and Safety Code § 19955 which requires private entities to make their facility accessible before and after remodeling, and to remove architectural barriers.

46. Therefore, Defendants engaged in discriminatory conduct in that they failed to comply with known duties under the ADA, ADAAG, Civil Code 51, 52, 54, 54.1, 54.3, ADAAG, and Title 24, and knew

or should have known that their acts of nonfeasance would cause

Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY emotional, bodily and personal injury.

Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY further alleges that such conduct was

done in reckless disregard of the probability of said conduct

causing Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY to suffer bodily or personal

humiliation, distress, and fear of physical injury. Plaintiff

injuries of mental and emotional distress, including, but not

limited to, anger, embarrassment, depression, anxiety,

suffer damages as a result of these injuries.

relief as hereinafter stated.

injury, anger, embarrassment, depression, anxiety, mortification,

ROBERT MCCARTHY alleges that such conduct caused him to suffer the

mortification, humiliation, distress, and fear of physical injury.

Further, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY experienced pain in his legs,

knees, back, arms, elbows, shoulders and wrists when he attempted

to enter, use, and exit Defendants' facilities. Plaintiff ROBERT

MCCARTHY additionally alleges that such conduct caused him to

47. Wherefore, Plaintiff ROBERT MCCARTHY prays for damages and

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DEMAND FOR JUDGMENT FOR RELIEF:

A. For general damages pursuant to Cal. Civil Code §§ 52, 54.3, 24 3281, and 3333;

- B. For \$4,000 in damages pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 52 for each and every offense of Civil Code § 51, Title 24 of the California Building Code, ADA, and ADA Accessibility Guidelines;
- C. In the alternative to the damages pursuant to Cal. Civil

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      Code § 52 in Paragraph B above, for $1,000 in damages pursuant to
   2
      Cal. Civil Code § 54.3 for each and every offense of Civil Code §
   3
     54.1, Title 24 of the California Building Code, ADA, and ADA
     Accessibility Guidelines;
  5
            For injunctive relief pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 12188(a) and
     Cal. Civil Code § 55.
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                             Plaintiff requests this Court enjoin
     Defendants to remove all architectural barriers in, at, or on
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     their facilities related to the following: Space Allowance and
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     Reach Ranges, Accessible Route, Protruding Objects, Ground and
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    Floor Surfaces, Parking and Passenger Loading Zones, Curb Ramps,
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    Ramps, Stairs, Elevators, Platform Lifts (Wheelchair Lifts),
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    Windows, Doors, Entrances, Drinking Fountains and Water Coolers,
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    Water Closets, Toilet Stalls, Urinals, Lavatories and Mirrors,
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    Sinks, Storage, Handrails, Grab Bars, and Controls and Operating
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    Mechanisms, Alarms, Detectable Warnings, Signage, and Telephones.
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          For attorneys' fees pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1988, 42 U.S.C.
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    § 12205, and Cal. Civil Code §§ 1032 and 1033.5;
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    F.
          For treble damages pursuant to Cal. Civil Code §§
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    and 54.3(a);
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A Jury Trial and; G. For such other further relief as the court deems proper. Η. Respectfully submitted: PINNOCK & WAKEFIELD, A.P.C. Dated: February 14, 2006 DAVID C. WAKEFIELD, ESQ. MICHELLE L. WAKEFIELD, ESQ. Attorneys for Plaintiff 

JS 44 - CAND (Rev. 11/04)

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(c) Attorneys (FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER) David C. Wakefield, Esq., SBN: 185736, Pinnock & Wakefield 3033 5th Ave., #410, San Diego, CA 92103, (619) 858-3671				Alameda  ATTORNEYS (IF KNOWN)		
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